

## **BP Oil Spill Response**

# LUS EPA Roles and Activities





#### Situation Overview: Updated June 28, 2010

- On April 22, Deepwater Horizon rig capsizes and sinks
- Current release estimates range from 35,000-60,000 barrels/day
- About 215 miles of shoreline impacted





#### **DHS Declared SONS**

- On April 29, Secretary Napolitano declares the incident a Spill of National Significance (SONS)
- This designation allows the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) to leverage the full resources available to the federal government
- Regions 4 and 6 are integrated into Unified Command structure (Robert, Houma, and Mobile)
- Headquarters (HQ) Emergency Operations
   Center (EOC) and R4 and R6 Regional
   Emergency Operation Centers (REOCs) are
   activated. EPA supports USCG National Incident
   Command (NIC) Interagency Solutions Group
   (IASG)







#### Response to Date: Updated July 1

- Total response vessels: 6,010
- Total boom deployed: over 7.94 million feet (4.94M regular plus 2.99M sorbent boom)
- Oily water recovered: over 671,000 barrels
- Dispersant used: about 1,032,897 gallons on the surface and 590,213 gallons subsurface
- Overall personnel responding: around 42,739



#### **Coordination Efforts**



- HQ EOC activated in Washington, DC
- USCG NIC presence in Washington, DC and New Orleans, LA
- EPA supporting USCG IASG in Washington, DC
- Region 6 REOC in Dallas, TX
- Region 4 REOC in Atlanta, GA
- Area Command; New Orleans, LA
- Incident Commands established in Houma, LA; Mobile, AL; and Miami, FL



#### **EPA Personnel Resources:**

Updated June 28, 2010

- EPA EOC (DC) activated with 40-50 personnel
- Region 4 has 59 personnel in REOC and field
- Region 6 has 86 personnel in REOC and field
- Total personnel <u>200</u> (including contractors) at above locations



#### **Dispersant Application**

- Dispersant is being applied to surface and subsurface (point of release)
- USCG and EPA directives have been issued to BP
- EPA and USCG requiring BP to follow an adaptive monitoring plan for subsurface application
- Emphasis on reducing dispersant use
- Surface and subsurface application is by USCG Federal on-Scene Coordinator (FOSC) and EPA approval
- Requiring BP to make data public as available



## **Sampling Plans**

- Air Sampling and Monitoring Plan
- Water and Sediment Sampling Plans
- Waste Management Plans



# **Air Monitoring Effort**

- Main objectives: monitoring for particulates, dispersant constituents, incineration and evaporation by-products, air toxics, VOCs and compounds causing odors and establishing air quality baseline
- Direct reading instrumentation, National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) air monitoring network, and air toxic sampling
- Special assets, Airborne Spectral Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) (airplane) and Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) (two mobile air sampling buses)



#### **Monitoring Devices**



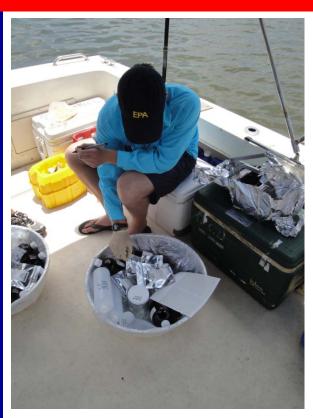




- AreaRaes were used for investigating odor complaints and to establish baseline VOC data
- Emergency Response Team's (ERT) TAGA vehicle was used to obtain Volatile Organic Carbon (VOC) readings in the parts per billion range
- ASPECT aerial imagery and monitoring for shoreline and in-situ burns
- Summa canisters were used to obtain air toxic information



# Water Sampling Along the Gulf







## **Water Sampling Effort**

- Main objectives: establishing pre-spill impact sediment and water quality conditions and monitoring through impact and recovery
- Using existing sample locations from EPA's National Coastal Assessment and identified targeted locations
- Special assets, coordinating with USCG and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on deep water vessel sampling efforts and with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and NOAA on dispersant analyses, including aquatic toxicity



#### Water and Sediment Analysis

- Water sampling shoreline and expanding into near-shore includes baseline and ongoing surface and sediment sampling for oil-associated contaminants and parameters related to dispersants and aquatic toxicity
  - Semi-volatile (SVOC)
  - Metals
  - Total organic carbon (TOC)
  - Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH)
  - Dispersant constituents
  - Toxicity testing



# Waste Management & Shoreline Cleanup

- BP developed a waste management plan with EPA, states and local input
- Directives were written to ensure that BP completes its responsibilities under the waste management plans.
- Directives require BP to regularly report their waste management actions to EPA and Coastguard.



#### **Research and Development**

- EPA office of Research and Development (ORD) made a \$2 million appropriation request for dispersant research.
  - Would give grants to universities with oil spill, dispersant use and ecological risk expertise
  - Would focus on dispersant toxicity, application, surface washing and bio-remediation agents and other mitigation measures